

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 28, with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 3 shows an alignment of the deduced amino acid sequences for the sialyltransferases. The OH4384 *cst-I* gene (first 300 residues) (Cst-I; SEQ ID NO:48), OH4384 *cst-II* gene (OH4384; SEQ ID NO:3) (identical to OH4382 *cst-II*), O:19 (serostrain) *cst-II* gene (O:19; SEQ ID NO:9) (GenBank #AF167344), NCTC 11168 *cst-II* gene (11168; SEQ ID NO:10) and an *H. influenzae* putative ORF (Hi\_ORF; SEQ ID NO:49) (GenBank #U32720) were aligned using the ClustalX alignment program (Thompson *et al.* (1997) *Nucleic Acids Res.* **25**, 4876-82). The shading was produced by the program GeneDoc (Nicholas, K. B., and Nicholas, H. B. (1997) URL: <http://www.cris.com/~ketchup/genedoc.shtml>).

Please replace the paragraph (Table 2) beginning at page 48, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

Table 2: Primers used for Amplification of Open Reading Frames

---

**Primers used to amplify the LPS core biosynthesis locus**

CJ42: Primer in heptosylTase-II (SEQ ID NO:40) (~~Error! Reference source not found.~~)

5' GC CAT TAC CGT ATC GCC TAA CCA GG 3' 25 mer

CJ43: Primer in heptosylTase-I (SEQ ID NO:41) (~~Error! Reference source not found.~~)

5' AAA GAA TAC GAA TTT GCT AAA GAG G 3' 25 mer

---

**Primers used to amplify and clone ORF 5a:**

CJ-106 (3' primer, 41 mer) (SEQ ID NO:42) ~~(Error! Reference source not found.):~~

*SalI*

5' CCT AGG TCG ACT TAA AAC AAT GTT AAG AAT ATT TTT TTT AG 3'

CJ-157 (5' primer, 37 mer) (SEQ ID NO:43) ~~(Error! Reference source not found.):~~

*NdeI*

5' CTT AGG AGG TCA TAT GCT ATT TCA ATC ATA CTT TGT G 3'

---

**Primers used to amplify and clone ORF 6a:**

CJ-105 (3' primer, 37 mer) (SEQ ID NO:44) ~~(Error! Reference source not found.):~~

*SalI*

5' CCT AGG TCG ACC TCT AAA AAA AAT ATT CTT AAC ATT G 3'

CJ-133 (5' primer, 39 mer) (SEQ ID NO:45) ~~(Error! Reference source not found.):~~

*NdeI*

5' CTTAGGAGGTCATATGTTTAAAATTTCATCATCTTACC 3'

---

**Primers used to amplify and clone ORF 7a:**

CJ-131 (5' primer, 41 mer) (SEQ ID NO:46) ~~(Error! Reference source not found.):~~

*NdeI*

5' CTTAGGAGGTCATATGAAAAAGTTATTATTGCTGGAAATG 3'

CJ-132 (3' primer, 41 mer) (SEQ ID NO:47) ~~(Error! Reference source not found.):~~

*SalI*

5' CCTAGGTCGACTTATTTTCTTTGAAATAATGCTTTATATC 3'

---